

### --- “Series of 1883” - Seventy Pounds - Black - COUPON Stamps ---

Chris Ryan reports that the seventy pound denomination was one of the original Series introduced on July 1st 1883. Thus the initial copies are found on *block wmkd* paper.

Chris Ryan, “Canadian Revenue Newsletter”, No. 41, March 2003

“Among the first stamps to be issued under the new Statute as part of the Series of 1883, were large denominated stamps to replace the discontinued ‘Caddy’ and ‘Box’ stamps on packages of pressed tobaccos. Initially, in May 1883, these stamps were to have consisted of a 10-pound rectangular ‘Cavendish’ stamp, and four coupon stamps of 15, 20, 60 and 70 pounds, covering packages from 15 to 25 pounds, and from 60 to 80 pounds. However, prior to their July 1st introduction, a 10-pound coupon-stamp was added to the set for packages of 10 to 14½ pounds.

Additions to the series were made in 1885, when 35 and 100-pound coupon-stamps were introduced. These stamps added 35 to 45 pounds, and 100 to 110 pounds, to the range of available sizes for packages of pressed tobaccos. The 1 and 5-pound coupon stamps, covering packages from 1 to 4 pounds and from 5 to 9½ pounds, were introduced in 1890 and 1888 respectively”.

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The catalogue lists the *recess printed* seventy pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

**RM-267** - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. blue controls, *long wreath*, with ten one pound coupons and an **188**\_ stub

**RM-267c** - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. blue controls, *long wreath*, with ten one pound coupons and an **188**\_ stub

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**3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886)

John McKay reports as ‘delivered’ 151,750 copies of “70 lb. Black Coupon” printed by hand press

**4th BABN Contract** (1886-1892)

John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 121,505 copies of “70 lb. Black Coupon” = 116,505 by hand press + 5,000 by rotary press

268,255 by hand press + 5,000 by rotary press = 273,255 total

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#### --- The “theoretical” control number range on the 70 pound black Coupon stamp ---

<b>3rd BABN Contract</b> - (1878-1886)	151,750	- <b>000001</b> to <b>151750</b>
<b>4th BABN Contract</b> - (1886-1892)	<u>121,505</u>	- <b>151751</b> to <b>273255</b>
	273,255	

#### --- The “actual” control number range on the 70 pound black Coupon stamp, as recorded to date ---

70 pounds, black, on <i>block wmkd</i> wove paper, with 4 mm. controls	- <b>022946</b> to <b>036106</b>
70 pounds, black, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove paper, with 4 mm. controls	- <b>097194</b> to <b>273003</b>

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It will require the location of additional control-numbered copies of the *block wmkd* stamp to determine how many copies of the *unwmkd* **RM-267** were included in the 151,750 stamps listed as ‘delivered’ under the 3rd BABN Contract. At present the 151,750 copies would break down as 36,106 *block wmkd* and 115,644 *unwmkd* stamps.

It is probable that the seventy pound stamps were printed in a single batch at Montreal prior to their return to Ottawa in 1887. To date, no seventy pound stamps, with 5 mm. (Ottawa) control numbering, have surfaced.

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--- RM-267c - Seventy Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed on *block wmkd vertical* mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten 1 pound coupons, and an *188\_* stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait - scanned at 200% scale ---



The catalogue lists this *recess printed* seventy pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

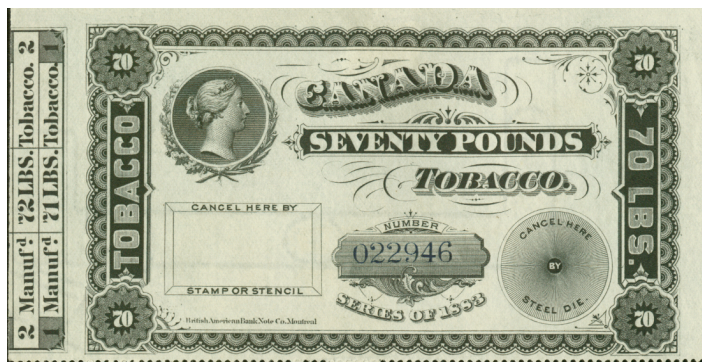
RM-267c - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. blue controls, *long wreath*, with ten one pound coupons and an *188\_* stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 70 pound black Coupon stamp ---

3rd BABN Contract - (1878-1886)

151,750

- 000001 to 036106 - to date



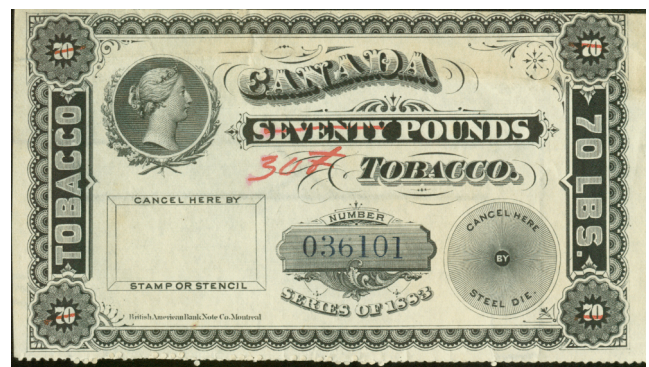
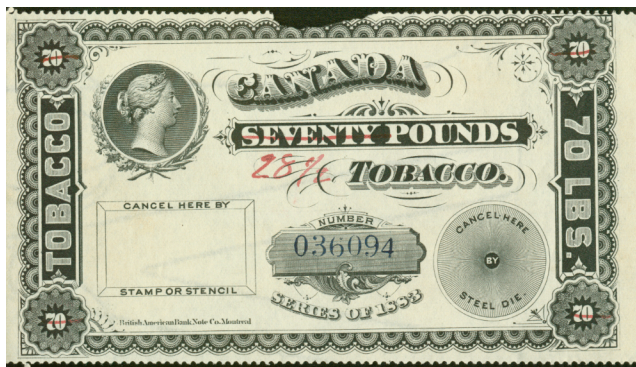
★ RM-267c - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 72 pounds, with 4 mm. control number 022946, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove

022946★	RM-267c	70 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 72 pounds, on block wmkd wove
036094★	RM-267c	70 pounds, black, perf 12, used at 28½ pounds, on block wmkd wove, e, manuscript in red ink 28½
036101★	RM-267c	70 pounds, black, perf 12, used at 28½ pounds, on block wmkd wove, e, manuscript in red ink 30
036105★	RM-267c	70 pounds, black, perf 12, used at 28½ pounds, on block wmkd wove, e, manuscript in red ink 36½
036106★	RM-267c	70 pounds, black, perf 12, used at 28½ pounds, on block wmkd wove, e, manuscript in red ink 37

I do not quite know what to think about the four *red manuscript* copies. These stamps were printed in books of one hundred, and thus the first *manuscript* example seems to have come from a different book. They have never been glued to a package.

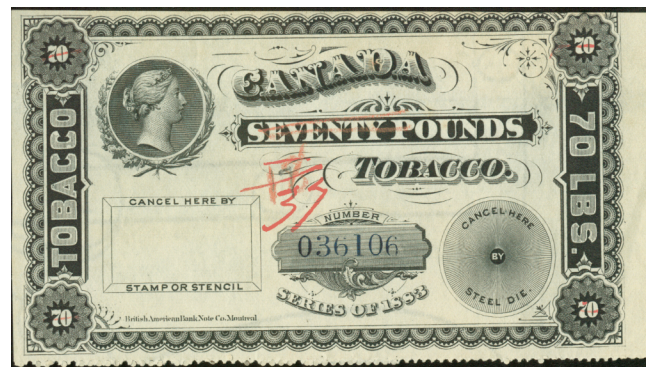


Were these simply given out by a *licensed merchant* at the time of sale, and not affixed to the sales item? The manuscripts seem to be from the same hand. As they are approximately for one-half of the listed denomination, was the *licensed merchant* breaking the larger carton into a more saleable size? The 35 pound coupon stamp was not added to the series until 1885. This looks like an early attempt to fill-in for the *yet to be printed* 35 pound denomination.



★RM-267c - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, used at **28½** pounds, with 4 mm. control number **036094**

★RM-267c - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, used at **30** pounds, with 4 mm. control number **036101**



★RM-267c - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, used at **36½** pounds, with 4 mm. control number **036105**

★RM-267c - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, used at **37** pounds, with 4 mm. control number **036106**



★RM-267n - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS, *without* control numbering, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove, with ten 1 pound coupons, and an **188**\_ stub

--- Seventy Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - *with 4 mm. violet Gothic controls* ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten 1 pound coupons - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

All of the stamps bearing 4 mm. Gothic *violet control numbers* seem to come from the “Series of 1883”. In a similar parallel, all of the stamps bearing the Lee Brandom 5 mm. Roman light blue controls seem to come from the “Series of 1880-81”. I feel that these oddities were prepared by BABN for Philatelic Exhibitions in 1880-81, and in the mid-1880’s. Some are found on *block wmkd* paper which indicates that they were from 1883-84.

There are a couple dozen examples in the collection most of which came from the “Ferrari” collection purchased from Erling van Dam. None of the other stamps in the “Ferrari” collection dated from later than 1900. Possibly they were prepared as a special “presentation” sets for prominent philatelists. At that time it was illegal to possess unused tax-paid stamps.



★ 70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWC, with purple 4 mm. Gothic control **29871**,  
on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove

The control numbers are purely arbitrary and *have no relation* to the regular control number sequence.



--- RM-267 - Seventy Pounds - “Series 1883” - Black - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed in BLACK on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten 1 pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

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The catalogue lists the *recess printed* seventy pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

RM-267 - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. blue controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten one pound coupons and an 188\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 70 pound black Coupon stamp ---

3rd BABN Contract - (1878-1886)

151,750

- 036106 to 151750 - to date

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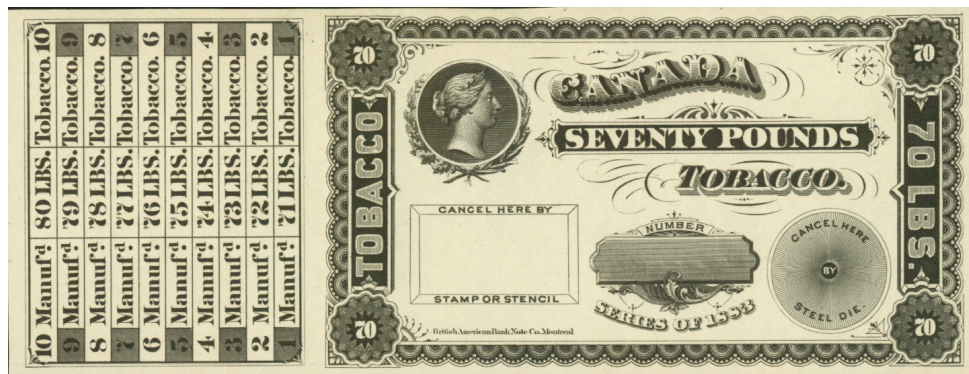
★RM-267 - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 74 pounds, with 4 mm. control number 097194,  
on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, rolled TOBACCO / P-4  
by the licensed tobacco merchant “Wm. Cummings & Co.” Truro, N.S.

097194★

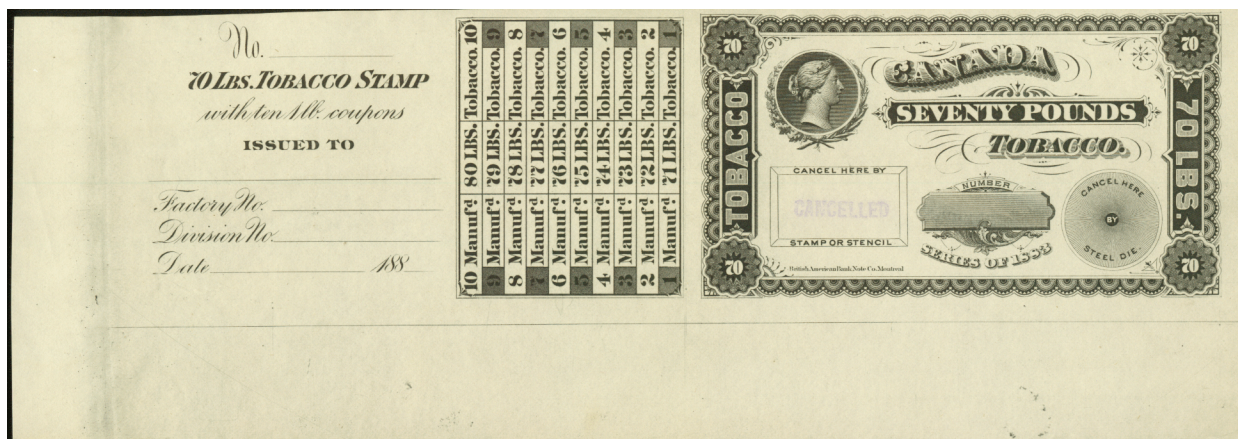
RM-267

70 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 74 pounds, on *unwmkd* wove,  
roller cancelled by the tobacco merchant TOBACCO / P-4

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★RM-267 PP - 70 pounds, black, CWC, a plate proof, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh heavy wove - scanned at 70% scale



★RM-267 PP / CP - 70 pounds, black, CWCS, a plate proof on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh heavy wove stamped **CANCELLED** - scanned at 60% scale

--- RM-267 - Seventy Pounds - “Series 1883” - Black - 4th BABN Contract - 1886-92 ---

--- Recess printed in BLACK on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten 1 pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

The catalogue lists this *recess printed* seventy pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

RM-267 - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. blue controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten one pound coupons and an 188\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 70 pound black Coupon stamp ---

4th BABN Contract - (1886-1892)

121,505

- 151751 to 273255



★RM-267 - 70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS, with 4 mm. control number 181996,  
on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, with ten 1 pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub

158756	RM-267	70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWC, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
158763	RM-267	70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove - stub dated 188_
181996 ★	RM-267	70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS on <i>unwmkd</i> wove - stub dated 188_
273003	RM-267	70 pounds, black, perf 12, CWC, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove

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November 1st 2013, JBH